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SPANISH LEGISLATORS NOTE NATION'S POLITICAL CLIMATE

PY171724Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1956 GMT 15 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Jul--A group of Spanish Socialist legislators visiting Argentina today emphasized the tolerance shown by local politicians and union leaders toward the military government.

The delegation is headed by Luis Yanez, the international relations secretary of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party [PSOE] and secretary of the Spanish parliament's Foreign Relations Committee. The other members of the delegation are Guillermo Galeote, Monica Therfall and Rafael Escudero, who are all PSOE deputies.

The delegation's tour began in Chile and, after completing their visit to Argentina, will go on to Uruguay and Brazil to check the political situation in the southern cone. Yanez explained to AFP that during the delegation's stay in Argentina they met with Peronist political leaders, radical leaders, with various Socialist groups here and with the leaders of the workers movement, which is intervened by the military government.

The legislators agreed that the politicians and union leaders they interviewed all showed extreme prudence in their criticisms of the government.

The delegation found that everyone, including the Peronists who were ousted by the military on 24 March 1976, said the political situation at the time of the coup forced the military to take over political power.

The legislators noted the differences they found between Argentina and Chile with respect to the attitude of civilian forces toward the military governments of the two countries. They explained that in Chile, as had happened in Franco's Spain, the civilian politicians and union leaders are strong opponents of the government.

They added that in Argentina, however, practically all civilian forces share the opinion that it is necessary to go through a transitional period to achieve democracy which would include the military as a stable power factor.

The Socialist legislators said that their visit would help to change the opinions which Europeans have about the Argentine process.

They added that PSOE leaders in Spain met with representatives of the Montoneros, the Argentine Guerrilla group, because they were political exiles, but that their party rejects terrorist tactics and does not agree with the Montoneros' ideology.

Yanez and his colleagues also met with Adm Emilio Massera, commander of the navy and a member of the Argentine military government junta, with judicial branch authorities and with Foreign Minister Vice Adm Oscar Antonio Montes.

They will leave Sunday for Uruguay, the third stop on their Latin American tour.

CHILEAN AMBASSADOR JARPA DEFENDS PINOCHET SPEECH

PY182009Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2140 GMT 17 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jul--Chilean Ambassador Sergio Onofre Jarpa stated today that he was unaware that Chile had purchased weapons, but he admitted that "all our countries are constantly renewing their defensive units," and he stated that the movement of Chilean troops was "normal," that these military exercises "must in no way be interpreted as warlike measures involving a watch or a threat against any neighboring country." Jarpa returned to Buenos Aires today. He had left for Chile on 11 July on routine business.

The newsmen who welcomed Jarpa asked him to give his interpretation of the speech delivered by President Pinochet to some 5,000 youth in La Serena last week, a speech which evinced an aggressive tone toward a country which could be either the United States or Argentina.

Jarpa stated: "General Pinochet's speech did not constitute verbal aggression or intimidation against any neighboring country. I do not see why some news media infer aggressive attitudes when a president reasserts the will of the people to defend their sovereignty and their independence."

Jarpa added: "I believe that the will to defend these fundamental values is very good news for all countries in the region. And inasmuch as Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay and all the other countries are determined to defend their sovereignty and independence in the face of foreign pressures, infiltration or interests, we are all much safer in our region. If there is a vacuum of power in one of our countries, if there is no such will, if the country takes a weak and passive stand, here come the foreign interests which establish a bridgehead, a base of operations, which little by little may spread all over the region."

Still in reference to Pinochet's speech, the ambassador added: "So when one of our presidents reasserts his will to defend his country's sovereignty and independence, I do not see why an aggressive attitude is inferred. The other attitude would instead be dangerous. This was the tone, the orientation and intention of the Chilean president."

When considering President Pinochet's "positive" attitude, he stated: "Naturally, all governments and peoples have the duty and the historical commitment to preserve their sovereignty and independence, and the fact that this is reasserted at a time when great powers are exercising so much pressure and adopting so many abusive attitudes toward other developing states I believe is a very positive attitude and action which should thus be clearly and thoroughly understood by all neighboring countries."

The ambassador was then asked his opinion on the development of negotiations carried on by the Argentine and Chilean delegations at the second [border] commission.

He answered: "The negotiations are developing normally within the scheduled plan and along the established issues. Therefore, I am sure that some very broad understanding will soon be reached which will open the way to future joint actions for other plans involving the two countries."

When the ambassador was asked about rumors concerning $800 million in arms purchases by his country during the past year, he answered: "This is the first I've heard about arms purchases."

He added: "Naturally, all our countries are constantly renewing their defensive units. You have probably heard of other leaders from our countries who have been travelling in search of some defense materials and resources which are necessary to defend our interest in our territory, the sea, the Antarctic, and other kinds of interests."

With regard to the troop movements which have been taking place in Chile, Jarpa said: "They were normal movements which are part of training exercises. Troops have to visit all the various climates, altitudes and territories in each of our countries so that they can get used to them. The day when our soldiers have to defend our sovereignty in an area where they have never "stayed is the day they will react badly. Maybe they'll all get the flu in a few days. Therefore, it is much better if they can get used to the climate. That is the reason for these normal movements. These must in no way be interpreted as warlike measures involving a watch or threat against any neighboring country."

Finally, Jarpa said that he was returning without having received special messages for any Argentine officials, except concerning the intention of continuing to work for everyday movement of bilateral relations.

MONTES DISCUSSES BORDER, PARANA BEFORE DEPARTURE

PY180139Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2205 GMT 17 Jul 78 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 Jul--Foreign Minister Oscar A. Montes stated today that he continues to be "optimistic" regarding the development of the border problem with Chile and that political circumstances should not be considered, since "if the two countries are willing to negotiate--and Argentina is--we will arrive at firm and negotiated solutions."

The foreign minister reasserted this national position shortly before leaving this afternoon, heading a delegation which will visit Romania, where he will hold talks with Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei. He will later head a meeting in Vienna with 22 Argentine ambassadors to countries and organizations in Western Europe, will talk with the Austrian foreign minister and will travel to Belgrade, where he will participate in the conference on nonalined countries.

Interviewed by newsmen shortly before boarding the plane which was to take him to Rome, first stop on his European tour, Montes admitted that his trip to Romania "could be a prelude to General Videla's visit" to this country.

Regarding the status and prospects of trilateral talks on utilization of the Parana River, Montes stated that "at this moment, as you know, negotiations are suspended but not canceled, since Argentina is convinced that greater and better utilization of water resources which God gave the three countries must be studied by the three in order to find the best solution to this utilization on behalf of the three peoples."

Asked about the possible results of the present meeting of presidents of the seven main industrial countries of the world, the foreign minister expressed his hope that "the positions of the two sides--developed and underdeveloped countries--will mature so that the prospects for a new North-South meeting with (?better) results (?than the prior meeting) will open."

Regarding talks with Chile, the minister said: "I continue to support our negotiations with Chile, beginning 24 June, and I continue to be moderately optimistic."

Montes added: "Political circumstances should not be taken literally; I continue to assert that not passing situations but, instead, the spirit of the two countries, should be considered. If the two countries are willing to negotiate--and Argentina is--we will arrive at firm and negotiated solutions."

Regarding the talks of the signatories of the Antarctic treaty, which he will inaugurate today in Buenos Aires, the foreign minister asserted that "the Chilean and Argentine positions regarding the Antarctic are very similar, since we support a similar policy, together with Australia and New Zealand. The interests of the four countries are similar.

MONTES SUGGESTS MODERATOR ROLE AT BELGRADE

PY182322Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2040 GMT 18 Jul 78 PY

[Excerpt] Rome, 18 Jul--Argentine Foreign Minister Vice Adm Oscar Montes arrived in this city today at 0930 and remarked that Argentina's independent and autonomous political position can contribute to the solution of many world problems. He said: "Our equidistance regarding the various ideological confrontations which divide the world allows us to assume the role of moderator in the forum which is about to meet in Belgrade, as it allows us to do so in other areas of conflict.

At a technical stopover an hour earlier in Madrid, Montes made similar remarks and then answered Spanish reporters regarding the possibility of calling elections in Argentina by stating: "We have not named dates, but we do have set objectives."

FORMER PERONIST CONGRESSMAN PEDRINI DISAPPEARS

PY150130Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0022 GMT 15 Jul 78 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 14 Jul--Adan Pedrini, a congressman during the defunct Peronist administration, disappeared here today after unknown armed persons took him away from his home, according to members of his family. Pedrini was president of the official deputies bloc in the northern province of Chaco during the Peronist regime ousted by the military in 1976.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH FRG--Buenos Aires, 11 Jul--The national executive branch today approved the cultural agreement signed with the FRG. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1220 GMT 11 Jul 78 PY]

PERUVIAN NUCLAR CENTER PROJECT--Buenos Aires, 12 Jul--The Legislative Advisory Commission has declared the project for constructing, equipping and implementing a nuclear research center in Peru of national interest. This task will be the responsibility of the Argentine National Atomic Energy Commission. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1447 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY]

NEW COMMERCIAL RADIO LINK--The National Telecommunications Company announced today that the Adrogue-Tandil-Azull Mar del Plata radio link will soon be available to the public. It has 1,800 channels, allowing national phone calls, radio and television programs and telex service plus a microwave link between the earth station and Buenos Aires for international transmissions. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY]

SILES ZUAZO BEGINS HUNGER STRIKE

FY190214Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jul 78 FY

[Text] Hernan Siles Zuazo, former Bolivian president and candidate for the presidency of the Democratic and Popular Unity Front [FUDP], has declared himself on a hunger strike at the offices of the nunciature, beginning at 1700 on (?Tuesday).

After making the extreme decision to subject himself to the voluntary fast, Hernan Siles Zuazo delivered a 2-page single-spaced statement to the national press in which he stated that during the election itself, the irregularities and abuses were countless. These, he stated, were mainly experienced in peasant areas, where the presence of opposition delegates at the voting booths was prevented.

Siles Zuazo gave this version to Panamericana:

[Begin Siles recording] In view of the intimidation and the violent deeds caused by the intent of the dictatorship to govern despite the popular will, anguished by the fratricidal encounter which is being unleashed by the continuism, and as an extreme step to reject dictatorship, I have decided to declare myself on a hunger strike. I call upon the armed forces not to become accomplices of this replacement of the will of the people, and I encourage opposing parties to defend the 9 July popular right. [end recording]

The former president later indicated that he will maintain his position until constitutional guarantees and the political and social rights of the Bolivian people are assured. He also requested that the electoral triumph of the opposition be guaranteed and that the (?export) of the shameful continuism which discredits the country, presenting it as a [word indistinct] without legality, dignity and respect for its own sovereignty, be stopped.

Specifically regarding his decision, the FUDP candidate gave the following reasons:

[Begin recording] In taking this step, which is a peaceful reply which eludes violence and tries to avoid a confrontation, I call upon the Bolivian people, the democratic opposition movements, all Bolivian men and women irrespective of creed or class to mobilize themselves on the basis of their own positions, possibilities, experience and means of struggle to defend their sovereign will as expressed in the 9 July elections. We do this using the peaceful resources that are available to us, in view of the official refusal to allow the strong unity of the Bolivian people, achieved by the FUDP, to exercise democratic power and to allow the country to enter the year 1979 united, free and sovereign.

The legality of this behavior originates from the sovereign will of the Bolivian people and the mandate of the majority, which we received on 9 July.

[Signed] Hernan Siles Zuazo; [dated] La Paz, 18 July 1978 [end recording]

This is the document read by leader (Marcos Domic), reporting on the extreme decision to begin a hunger strike, which began at 1700 local time today, Tuesday, at the nunciature.

Mantilla Willing To Talk

PY1[illegible]0246Y La Paz Radio Panamericans Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Julio Mantilla, president of the National Electoral Court, would be willing to talk personally with candidate Hernan Siles Zuazo, who declared himself on a hunger strike beginning at 1700 today.

Mantilla stated: If this decision has anything to do with the electoral process or, stated more appropriately, with the court under my responsibility, I believe that we could talk and reach an agreement. If, on the other hand, his motives are different, there is nothing I can do.

Mantilla also stated that he had talked with Siles Zuazo before and that he found that the candidate of the Democratic and Popular Unity Front had very fine personal qualities. These are Julio Mantilla's words:

[Begin recording] I am very sorry about this, and I am not aware of the reasons. I have informally talked with him and have found that he has great personal qualities. If his attitude is connected with any action by the National Electoral Court, I can talk with him, and I believe that we could reach an agreement. However, if it is any other problem, I cannot [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Mantilla stated that once he learned the reasons for Siles Zuazo's hunger strike, he would make a decision.

GOVERNMENT SEEKING SUPPORT TO COUNTER FRAUD CHARGES

PY141925Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1524 GMT 14 Jul 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 14 Jul--The military government today was trying to gather the largest number of statements of support from political sectors which can aline with the government, in order to counteract the surge of charges on electoral fraud which has already elicited messages of "concern" from the U.S. Government.

Meanwhile, the ballot count from Sunday's elections gave the official candidate the absolute majority with 50.1 percent of the votes, which, so far, assures him of election as constitutional president, even though the opposition maintains that Gen Juan Pereda did not even win 20 percent of the authentic votes.

Anyway, when 75 percent of the votes had been counted, Pereda had 763,204 (50.13 percent); leftist candidate Hernan Siles Zuazo had 320,223 (21.80 percent); Victor Paz had 164,652 (11.21 percent); and Rene Bernal had 155,165 (10.56 percent).

The political groups supporting Pereda and General Banzer himself had begun, meanwhile, a campaign aimed at counteracting the atmosphere of doubt regarding the normal development of the ballot count, with angry expressions to condemn both those who are charging fraud and international observers who state that they have verified the fraud.

The Bolivian Foreign Ministry also announced that it had instructed its representatives to international organizations to refute the charges of electoral fraud which have already brought a statement of "concern" from the U.S. State Department and even from the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry.

The ballot count this morning, according to lists published by the newspaper PRESENCIA, showed a slight decrease in Pereda's percentage, which some politicians interpret as a sign that the fraud is being lessened. This probably has to do also with the meeting held last night between leaders of the Christian Democratic Party and its candidate, Gen Rene Bernal, with members of the high military command, to present new charges of fraud. Bernal--defense minister until December 1977--met the members of the high command at his home and stated to them the need for the armed forces to guarantee that there will be no fraud in the final counting, which will be carried out from 21 to 31 July. Victor Paz stated last night that he and Hernan Siles would also participate in this meeting, but the newspaper PRESENCIA states today that the only candidate of the opposition who talked with the high military command was Bernal. The military officers promised Bernal that they would submit his claims to Gen Hugo Banzer, who is now armed forces commander in chief.

Opposition spokesmen stated this morning that the lessening of fraud in the ballot count may mean that, in view of the charges and international protest, the government decided not to exert pressure to give Pereda more than half the votes.

If Pereda is not elected directly he must be appointed by Congress, which he is probably assuring now by gaining for his candidacy the possibility of a majority in Congress.

According to PRESENCIA, even though losing in La Paz (where Siles is far ahead), Pereda would win 90 of the 138 congressmen, which would be sufficient to be appointed constitutional president by Congress. Congress will meet on 6 August.

ELECTORAL COURT MOVES TO REVIEW ELECTION

PY190332Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 18 Jul 78 PY

[Text] In an attempt to ease the political tension caused by persistent reports of electoral fraud, the National Electoral Court today issued an important resolution regarding the issuance of credentials to the winners of the election, that is, to senators and deputies of each district. In view of its significance, we will now read the resolution, released tonight to the press by Julio Mantilla, president of the National Electoral Court.

The first part says: It is resolved: to suspend the power of departmental courts to uphold the election of senators and deputies and to issue the appropriate credentials, until the National Electoral Court determines the total number of valid votes, after making final, unappealable decisions on all charges filed by the political fronts and parties which participated in the 9 July election with their own candidates.

Second, the release of departmental vote counts pursuant to Article 149 of the Electoral Law will be considered only unofficial public information, whose figures can be ultimately modified as a result of decisions made by the National Electoral Court.

Third, pursuant to the provisions of Decree Law No 15,305 of 8 February 1978, Article 1, Section B, the departmental electoral courts must submit to the National Electoral Court without exception, no later than 21 July, the following documents: the vote count of each department, pursuant to the provisions of Article 142 of the Electoral Law; the official report on the results of the election, including detailed remarks of the delegates of the political parties; a detailed report on voting places, registration offices, courts, voting tables, including the names and locations of attending officials; and a report on electoral activities before, during and after the election.

The national vote count for president and vice president of the republic, referred to in Article 151 of the Electoral Law, will be made by the National Electoral Court on the basis of the outcome of the verification of the departmental vote counts.

BRIEFS

RADIO STATION TO REOPEN--Union leaders of the Siglo XX mines have reported that the radio station La Voz del Minero will probably start broadcasting again in August, after almost 2 years of military intervention. [La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 14 Jul 78 PY]

COB CONGRESS--The Bolivian Labor Central, COB, opened a special congress today to study the political and union situation in the country. The congress will continue next week. [La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 14 Jul 78 PY]

U.S. POSITION ON SEA RESOURCES REJECTED

PY190335Y Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 19 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Brazil has reaffirmed to the United States its decision to not accept indiscriminate use of technology in exploiting sea resources. This position was conveyed today to Elliot Richardson, who has been meeting with Itamaraty and Mines and Energy Ministry officials.

At the UN Law of the Sea Conference which is being held in New York, the great powers led by the United States have maintained the principle that they can make indiscriminate use of their technology to exploit sea resources, especially minerals.

PRESIDENT GEISEL STRESSES NEED TO INCREASE EXPORTS

PY180325Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 17 Jul 78 PY

[Speech by President Ernesto Geisel opening fourth national meeting of exporters at Gloria Hotel, Rio de Janeiro, on 17 July--recorded]

[Excerpts] Gentlemen: The discussion of national economic issued is a healthy democratic exercise which my government is trying to stimulate. The ideas and suggestions which are brought up in these discussions, when duly reconciled, can markedly contribute to moving toward better directions for developing society.

A responsible debate is one which seeks possible solutions, and not one which is motivated by unrealistic ideas, which are devoid of reality. In economic policies, there can be ideological options based on ethical principles and sound judgment. In our case, these options are aimed at strengthening the private sector and at operating a market economy based on essential competitive conditions. But there are also logical demands without which any development will fail because it lacks internal coherence. Among the logical impositions placed on Brazil, is our obligation to emphasize the need to maintain a high growth rate in our exports.

Since 1974 the Western world has been facing difficulties and economic restrictions which have forced us now into a state which is altogether different from the soaring stage of prosperity we had until the petroleum crisis.

In view of current problems, there are two causes of imbalance: first, the imbalance in current accounts, the large surplus of OPEC and some developed countries, and the extremely large deficit in developing countries which import petroleum and, paradoxically, in some of the most prosperous nations in the world; and secondly, inflation rates, which even though less drastic than in early 1974, are still beyond acceptable levels to most societies. These two problems have prevented the growth of production and employment in almost every petroleum importing country, and have also elicited intensified protectionism and caused a low expansion rate in world trade.

In 1973, Brazilian exports amounted to $6.2 billion, $2.1 billion of which was accounted for by manufactured products; in 1977, 4 years after the petroleum crisis, our exports amounted to $12.1 billion, $5 billion of which was accounted for by manufactured products. All in all, our exports increased by 96 percent, and the export of manufactured products by 139 percent.

Data corresponding to the first half of 1978 indicate a drop in the export of primary products, in part due to unfavorable weather conditions, in part due to a different seasonal distribution of coffee exports. These figures show an unprecedented [impar] growth in the sales of manufactured products.

Promoting exports does not mean forcing the stagnation of the domestic market of mass consumer goods, nor is it compatible with improving the people's standard of living. In fact, expanding the domestic market, through anything which may help build a strong middle class and which may yield new opportunities for improvement to the working class, is the ultimate objective of any economic policy.

This expansion was still limited in recent years--and certainly will be controlled in the future--by the behavior of our balance of payments. In dreams, it is easy to imagine a society in which the domestic market can grow at the highest conceivable rates. Yet, in a responsible policy, we must remember that no feasible development model can exist with a permanent imbalance in domestic accounts.

We do not import because we merely want to expand the domestic market. We import because we need to import essential goods and services which are designed for our domestic market. In my government, we were able to bring the trade balance to a point of equilibrium and to reduce the deficit in current accounts to adequate figures and to attract foreign capital.

By necessity, this effort in promoting exports will have to be maintained in the future. In fact, in the coming years, Brazil will need not only to bring the trade balance to a point of equilibrium, but to obtain a considerable trade surplus. In a first stage, it will have to stop the growth of service charges. In a later stage, the Brazilian foreign debt will have to reach its absolute maximum limit, which will be corrected only when the deficit in current accounts is reduced to the level equivalent to income through direct investments.

We must not expect imports to remain stagnated in their dollar value. All these problems indicate that we can have only one solution: the maintenance of a high growth rate in our foreign sales.

We must be aware that the greater our participation in international trade, the greater the difficulties we will have to face in terms of protectionism, nontariff barriers and similar obstacles.

Brazil has been actively participating in the present GATT negotiations, in which an attempt will be made to stop the present intensification of protectionism. In view of their defective markets, of the investments necessary to expand their industrial exports, we maintain that developing countries are entitled to different treatment in commercial codes and practices. We also defend the principle that no compensatory right designed to counter incentives to exports can be imposed without producing evidence of the damage caused to the industry of the importer. We trust that these negotiations will contribute to improving international patterns of commercial cooperation.

Since 1964, Brazil has been granting major incentives to exports in general, especially to manufactured products. Furthermore, we are now going through a period in which it is not enough to export surplus but in which we need, in which we must, (?produce more) to export more.

Exporters certainly now need assurance that this policy of incentives will continue. The economic rationality maintained by all revolutionary governments guarantees that this policy will be continued, since promoting Brazilian exports [applause] is not a mere ideological imposition but a logical necessity.

In this respect, I am happy to announce today that we will soon submit to Congress a bill, which is now being drafted, authorizing the creation of an enterprise which will be exclusively designed to provide export credit insurance [applause] with the participation of both government and private capital. I believe I should emphasize the pressing need for this instruments to reduce markedly certain risks involved in exporting.

The improvement of our political institutions demands greater participation from each of us and, consequently, demands that we assume greater responsibility regarding the directions which will guide the development of Brazilian society.

Yet, the major gains achieved by the revolution for the people are irreversible, economic rationality, opposing the romanticism of some elite groups which have done nothing but exploit our people, fall within the category of irreversible gains. One of the major results of this rationality, which was instrumental in strengthening the business sector and the market economy, in avoiding both domestic stagnation and foreign impasse, was the national effort in developing exports. [applause]

ELECTORAL COURT VOTES TO UPHOLD MALUF NOMINATION

PY181417Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 18 Jul 78 PY

[Text] By 4 votes to 2, the Superior Electoral Court decided yesterday to turn down Laudo Natel's request to invalidate the result of the convention of the National Renewal Alliance which elected Paulo Alim Maluf as candidate for the governorship of Sao Paulo. Reporter Nilton Flora interviewed Paulo Maluf on the decision.

[Begin Maluf recording] I want to emphasize once more what I have been saying all along: that I was confident that justice would be done. The stones tnrown at us will be used to build a temple of peace and understanding for the citizenry of Sao Paulo, of social justice and well-being, and of economic development. At this time we want to offer our hands to all inviting them to join efforts for the electoral victory of our party on 15 Novemeber.

[Question] Mr Maluf, will you pick your secretaries after the 15 November elections or are you thinking of some names right now?

[Answer] Everyone knows that we cannot assume any commitment other than of a parity basis at the municipal level. As for the names of the future state government secretaries, we will start to think concretely of some names only on 16 November, the day after the elections. We have no commitments at this time.

[Question] Not even on the Sao Paulo's mayor post?

[Answer] None whatsoever. [end recording]

Figueiredo Accepts Ruling

PY181715Y Florianopolis Radio Diario da Manha in Portuguese 1515 GMT 18 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Upon learning the result of the Maluf case in the Superior Electoral Court yesterday, Colonel Paiva Chaves, adviser to Gen Joao Baptista de Figueiredo, said that the Sao Paulo gubenatorial candidate will be given all the necessary support; otherwise, the court's decision would not be respected as it should be. The colonel also explained that General Figueiredo was not following this case closely, but that he would have taken any result just as calmly.

The possibility of a meeting between General Figueiredo and Maluf in Brasilia before the latter's trip to Sao Paulo on 17 August is being acknowledged by the presidential candidate's office.

BENTES MONTEIRO PROPOSES TRANSITION GOVERNMENT

PY150310Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 14 Jul 78 p 7 PY

[Excerpts] Recife--In a speech made yesterday at the [Pernambuco State] Legislative Assembly during a meeting of the National Redemocratization Front, Gen Euler Bente Monteiro proposed a short transition government between the state of arbitrariness and the state of law, a government which would remove the exceptional laws, would promote amnesty, would pacify Brazilians and would convoke a national constituent assembly.

He said: "People of Pernambuco and of the northeast, we can see how much wealth, how many human and natural resources are either wasted or misused, and how many distortions and errors are committed to allegedly organize your economy, which is becoming increasingly worse."

"What is then the cause of these distortions both in the economy and in society itself? They were no doubt caused by the political phenomenon. They were caused by the political situation, by the political regime in force not only in the northeast but in the entire country, a regime in which unilateral decisions are made. People of Pernambuco and of the northeast, this is why we want to propose to all Brazilians the establishment in Brazil of a true democratic state of law, a regime and a government created of the people, by the people and for the people--pursuant to the republican slogan. What we specifically propose is a short transition government between the state of arbitrariness and the state of law; a government which would remove both exceptional laws and constitutional amendments, which would promote, through political amnesty, the pacification of all Brazilians; and which, after pacifying Brazil, would convoke a national constituent assembly through which all Brazilians might build a regime and a form of government by themselves."

ARMY SPOKESMAN VIEWS BENTES MONTEIRO'S CANDIDACY

PY151612Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 15 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Reporter (Nelson Ferreira) of Radio Bandeirantes has had an interview with Gen Dilermando Gomes Monteiro, commander of the 2d Army in Sao Paulo.

[Question] General, isn't Gen Euler Bentes Monteiro causing division in the armed forces by being a candidate?

[Answer] That is a question of apolitical nature and so I have no answer. Now, since you referred to the army, I can respond. I have talked with fellow army commanders and with the Army Ministry and I sense no division. The armed forces are an institution which cannot be divided and can be thought of only as an organization united behind their commanders, the army minister and the nation's president.

[Question] Do you believe that the candidacy of General Figueiredo is being accepted?

[Answer] That does not depend on my opinion. His candidacy has been launched by the National Renewal Alliance and as such it will be submitted to an election. Then we will see the results and I have confidence in the victory of Gen Joao Baptista Figueiredo.

[Question] Do you believe that General Figueiredo has the total support of the army?

[Answer] I cannot speak for the army because it is an organization based on hierarchy throughout the national territory. I cannot speak for the army, except to say that it is united. I have no idea about the army's political thinking, because political thinking is an individual matter, citizens thinking for themselves.

[Question] Do you believe that torture is being inflicted on prisoners, as rumored?

[Answer] I cannot swear that torture, in the form of physical mistreatment, does not exist, because I read about it in newspapers. This probably results from purely individual reactions. But I do not believe that torture is practices with the acquiescence of responsible authorities. I can assure you that in the area under my command there is no such practice.

SAFETY OF NUCLEAR PLANTS DRAWS SCRUTINY

PY1800014Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 15 Jul 78 p 13 PY

[Excerpts] Although the Angra dos Reis nuclear plant will start operating within 6 months, there is still no information about its safety. For instance, Brazilian scientists do not know how thick the wall of the reactor building will be. There is, however, an unconfirmed report that the thickness of the walls has been reduced, for economic reasons, to half that stipulated in the original specifications. Furthermore, no information has been given about the operation of the plant, about the internal safety measures adopted or about the method of supervising construction of the installations to verify if the specifications of the project are being met.

Besides all these facts, the Health Ministry does not have radiation technicians. The organization in charge of pollution control in Rio de Janeiro does not have the equipment necessary to measure radioactivity. The Brazilian Nuclear Corporation's radioactivity laboratory has been transferred from Angra to Pocos de Caldas. Furthermore, the ministries involved in implementing the program--like Interior, Health and even the special Secretariat for the Environment--have the same total lack of contact with the plant, as do Brazilian scientists without official connections.

When [University of Sao Paulo jurist] Guido Soares commented on the legal details of the development of nuclear programs in the United States, the FRG and Brazil, he pointed out that in Brazil the population is not consulted or informed about the ecological impact of the plants; and even if measures are adopted to protect the ecology, these are much less strict in Brazil than in other countries.

The safety and nuclear pollution research commission of the Brazilian Commission for the Progress of Science has prepared a report which was read at a roundtable by its coordinator, Luiz Carlos de Menezes. This report suggests:

A. Creation of an independent consultative organization, and an organization for both auditing management and deciding appeals, to supervise implementation of the Brazilian nuclear program;

B. Implementation of Brazilian legislation for the nuclear sector, to avoid the transcription or the piecemeal adoption of laws which are now in force in other countries;

C. Information to and consultation with the people, "especially those sectors which are more closely involved."

CUBILLOS SAYS BORDER TALKS PROCEEDING WELL

PY180106Y Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 16 Jul 78 pp 2, 3 PY

[Excerpts] THE CHILEAN FOREIGN MINISTER SAID YESTERDAY THAT "CHILE AND ARGENTINA ARE NEGOTIATING A SOLUTION TO THEIR PROBLEMS IN GOOD FAITH," WHEN ANSWERING A QUESTION FROM THE PRESS ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE BILATERAL TALKS REGARDING THE BORDER DISPUTE IN THE SOUTH.

Hernan Cubillos made this remark when commenting on the recent interpretations made by the Argentine press of the speech by Chilean President Gen Augusto Pinochet Ugarte in La Serena, 600 km north of the Chilean capital.

According to the Chilean foreign minister, Pinochet's remarks are "ABSOLUTELY NORMAL STATEMENTS WHICH ANY CHILEAN UNDERSTANDS AS A DEFENSE OF HIS COUNTRY'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY."

He added that he did not believe that this presidential message "HAD BEEN WRONGLY INTERPRETED IN ARGENTINA, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SOME EXCESSES IN THE PRESS."

Cubillos then said: "BUT DESPITE THE REMARKS AND DESPITE EVERY TYPE OF VERBIAGE, IT IS APPROPRIATE THAT IT BE UNDERSTOOD THAT CHILE AND ARGENTINA ARE NEGOTIATING A SOLUTION TO THEIR PROBLEMS IN GOOD FAITH."

UN PANEL MEETS WITH VICARIATE OF SOLIDARITY

FY181509Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 18 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile--The ad hoc UN Human Rights Commission held a 4-hour meeting with the leaders of the Vicariate of Solidarity yesterday. Aboulaye Dieye of Senegal, Felix Ermacora of Austria, and Marianne Kamara of Sierra Leone spoke with Christian Precht, head of the Vicariate of Solidarity and (Javier) [name indistinct], executive secretary of this organization.

The meeting was secret and at the end of it the members of the UN group talked with relatives of allegedly missing persons who had been waiting near the Vicariate of Solidarity since early morning.

The Vicariate of Solidarity issued a brief communique indicating that its representatives had met with the UN group to explain to the latter the activities which the church of Santiago was carrying out in the field of solidarity.

The UN Human Rights Commission which is investigating the status of these rights in Chile had also met with officials of the National Information Center.

EL MERCURIO REPLIES TO ARGENTINE CRITICISM OF PINOCHET

PY180030Y Santiago Chile EL MERCURIO in Spanish 14 Jul 78 p 3 PY

[Editorial: "A Disproportionate Reaction"]

[Text] Some Argentine newspapers have reacted with notable violence in criticizing President Pinochet's speech during his recent trip to Combarbala.

According to the Argentine press, the Chilean president took a warmongering, challenging and aggressive position.

Assuredly the presidential speech was disseminated and published out of context. In addition, the Argentine public in all probability lacks information regarding the attitudes and words adopted by high-ranking officials of this neighboring country.

The Chilean president urged the population toward national unity and, to emphasize his ideas, said that when countries are threatening our sovereignty we must demonstrate that we are Chileans and that we are going to preserve our territory no matter what the cost.

If these words are properly analyzed they do not seem warmongering, challenging or aggressive. It is a question of an elemental gesture in defense of Chile's territorial inheritance in face of situations which can be harmful to it. If the Chilean chief of state cannot call on his fellow countrymen to demonstrate that they are Chileans and be ready to preserve their territory without being branded aggressive and a warmonger, it is difficult to assess the statements and actions of our neighbors.

The Bolivian Government severed relations with our country with the object of forcing us to modify the treaty which definitely fixes the border between the two nations and which has been in force since 1904. In keeping with the fact that the La Paz government severed relations with us and that it is making every effort to satisfy its maritime aspiration without a peaceful understanding with Chile, it is evident that its actions can affect our sovereignty.

The Argentine Government unilaterally declared Queen Elizabeth's decision null and void, violating legal obligations which were imposed on it by treaties and international law, with the purpose of not acknowledging the contents of the decision and of challenging Chile for a territory which belongs to our country by virtue of tne border treaty signed in 1881 by the two countries.

In addition to this flagrant abuse of international law, Chilean public opinion has accepted cooly the subsequent statements of Admiral Massera and other Argentine civilian and military personalities, who do not hide their hunger for Chile's southern territories. A recent statement by Admiral Massera seemed to touch upon Arturo Prat, our illustrious hero. As the figure of the hero is very much above the oratorical indiscretions of an impolite toast, the remark was not taken up, and not even a trace was found in the Chilean press regarding this nervous reaction to the call by our president for unity among Chileans and preservation of our territory.

In Argentina the aggressiveness has not stopped with words. We know of at least two noisy naval maneuvers which were observed here with indifference, whose publicity give them a challenging aspect which is stressed more clearly than words. The same type of publicity has been given the trips and negotiations for important arms purchases by Argentina.

In addition, unfriendly economic measures are also known, consisting of the prohibition on exporting to Chile railroad spares, automotive parts, hides, tea, magazines, trepans, betony [betonita], etc--products of strategic value.

This series of events authorizes a Chilean president to stress national unity and to ask citizens to be ready to defend the territory in the event its sovereignty is affected.

The reaction of the Argentine press is disproportionate and reflects an inappropriate hypersensitivity. In Chile, the president's remarks are not considered warmongering or aggressive. In addition, the president can count on the unanimous support of Chileans on this very position of defending the territory "no matter what the cost." The Chilean-Argentine talks regarding the southern sea border and other topics seem to be progressing well, but our Argentine friends must know that this country is not intimidated and is immovable in firmly protecting its rights. Chile lives and aspires to live in peace, but this is a long way from believing that the intention to preserve its territory is warmongering or aggressive.

PRC AMBASSADOR MEETS WITH GENERAL VIDAL

PY1414312 Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 14 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Santiago--PRC Ambassador Hu Cheng-fang has held a meeting with Government Minister Secretary Gen Rene Vidal, during which they discussed bilateral issues.

After the meeting the PRC ambassador stated: I informed the minister about the arrival in Chile of sport and art delegations. This constitutes the start of a new stage in our bilateral relations.

BRIEFS

TRADE WITH ROMANIA--The Chilean ambassador to Romania has said that relations with that country are normal and that there is a gradual increase of trade between the two countries. Chile exports to Romania copper and other products worth approximately $17 million a year and imports from that country spare parts for agricultural equipment, pharmaceutical products and fertilizers. [Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 7 Jul 78 PY]

BUSINESS LEADERS SUPPORT GOVERNMENT--Private business leaders who are members of the production and commerce confederation expressed their support for President Augusto Pinochet regarding government policies on trade, agricultural production, mining, construction and industry during a meeting held at government house yesterday. [Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 7 Jul 78 PY]

HABEAS CORPUS REQUEST ACCEPTED--The appeals court has accepted a writ of habeas corpus which was submitted by three persons who were indicted by military courts. A month ago, after commuting their sentence, the government ordered their expulsion from the country. (Sergio Sepulveda), (Hector Reyes) and (Hernan Heilderman) were indicted by a military court on charges of distributing antigovernment pamphlets printed on a clandestine press where they worked. [Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY]

COLOMBIA TO PROMOTE COFFEE SALES IN EASTERN EUROPE

PA171514Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--Colombia will undertake a large-scale campaign to promote coffee sales in the socialist countries of Eastern Europe. The announcement was made by sources close to the National Federation of Coffee Growers [FEDECAFE] in view of a decline in trade with the countries of planned economies, particularly due to the high price of coffee on the international market.

In the past 10 years, socialist participation in Colombian trade has dropped from 3.2 to 2.8 percent due to the ignorance of market conditions and financial arrangements on the part of Colombian industrialist and businessmen. The expansion of trade with the countries of Eastern Europe can be achieved through compensatory conventions by exporting raw materials and consumer goods and importing industrial equipment to build energy projects and roads, a FEDECAFE official reported.

CONSERVATIVES DEMAND HALF OF CABINET POSTS

PA181317Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--Half of the government cabinet positions were requested today by the Conservatives as an ideal system for the country within the traditional system of parity.

Candidate Alvaro Gomez Hurtado said that an equal number of Liberal and Conservative ministers would be the best formula to channel the country toward achieving its goals. Also tradition dictates that a system of parity would be ideal for the country within the outlines of modern democracy, Gomez Hurtado explained during a news conference in which he announced some of the bills which the Alvarist sector will present for congressional consideration.

Liberals Oppose Demand

PA190411Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpts] Bogota--Ernesto Lucena Quevedo, secretary general of the Liberal Party, said today that the new cabinet must have a Liberal Party Majority and there must be no parity, as former presidential candidate Alvaro Gomez Hurtado proposes.

Lucena said that the new government must have a Liberal majority since this is what the people expressed in the 4 June presidential elections. He pointed out: [begin recording] If what Dr Alvaro Gomez wants is to maintain a de facto parity in Colombia, then he is wrong. We have entered a new historic process, that of returning to a full democracy where the majority has the [words indistinct] of the ideas, programs and men and, in this specific case, the Liberal Party since it won the 4 June elections because that was the will of the people.

[Question] Do you think, Doctor, that the new cabinet will have a Liberal majority"

[Answer] I have no doubt that interpreting the new political situation of the country [words indistinct] national front. The new cabinet will have to have a Liberal majority. [end recording]

The Ospina-Pastrana sector has adopted a moderate attitude regarding the proposal made yesterday by former presidential candidate Alvaro Gomez Hurtado that his party be given half of the cabinet posts in the new government.

Guillermo Angulo Gomez has stated that he agrees with the congressional reform bill presented by Alvaro Gomez' party but disagrees with that party's demand for half of the cabinet posts. He characterized this as very personal demand. It is logical that he should want to obtain the best for his party, Angulo said, but I do not agree with the terms that were used in so doing since it is the governing party which should decide on that.

JUDICIARY BRANCH EMPLOYEES STAGE 24-HOUR STRIKE

PA182115Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1912 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[By German Acero Espinosa]

[Excerpts] Bogota, 18 Jul (EFE)--The largest strike in the history of Colombian justice is being experienced today, Tuesday, because more than 20,000 officials of the judiciary branch have declared a 24-hour strike to exert pressure [on the government] for the payment of wages and bonuses which have not been paid since January.

The National Association of Judiciary Branch Officials and Employees ordered the strike because the executive branch did not pay in full the benefits recently granted in the legislature's labor decrees.

Justice Minister Cesar Gomez Estrada criticized the strike by the employees of the judiciary branch and said that "it is a trick to further stir up this country."

M-19 GUERRILLAS KIDNAP VENEZUELAN, NICARAGUAN ATHLETES

PA181354Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpt] Medellin--The M-19 guerrilla movement has carried out a spectacular publicity stunt by kidnaping for 2 hours a bus carrying Venezuelan and Nicaraguan baseball players. The M-19 command harangued the players with revolutionary slogans and said that the Colombian guerrillas (?intend to unite.) The guerrillas later freed the players close to the ball park where the games are being held.

The initials of the M-19 movement and the Nicaraguan Sandinist National Liberation Front were painted on the bus in large black letters.

Nicaragua Demands Protection

PA181650Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0318 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpts] Medellin, Colombia, 17 Jul (EFE)--Nicaragua announced tonight its withdrawal from the 13th Central American and Caribbean games unless "it receives appropriate security guarantees." "Unless all security measures are guaranteed for the country's athletes, Nicaragua will immediately withdraw from the remaining sports matches," an official communique issued by the delegation states.

Frenando Londono Posada, director of the 13th games, immediately met with the Nicaraguan team leaders tonight to settle the matter and to guarantee all the security measures requested for the athletes.

ROLDOS, DURAN BALLEN TO BE RUNOFF CONTENDERS

PA181411Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] According to reports by the electoral information service of the presidency of the republic, Jaime Roldos Aguilera of the Popular Concentration of Popular Forces and Sixto Duran Ballen of the Constitutionalist Front will run for the presidency in September. The information service shut down its equipment in the last few hours after counting more than 1,600,000 votes, equivalent to (?77 percent) [words indistinct] which was over 2 million.

According to provisional results, Roldos obtained more than 450,000 votes, or 31 percent of the total, excluding null and blank votes. According to unofficial reports, Duran Ballen obtained 340,000 votes, or 26 percent of the total. The 11,000-vote difference between Roldos and Duran Ballen is impressive. The third runner-up is Raul Clemente Huerta, with approximately 320,000 votes, or 22 percent. Huerta, as can easily be seen, is very close to Duran Ballen but [words indistinct] far away from Roldos.

Rodrigo Borjas of the Democratic Left finished in fourth place with 160,000 votes, or 11 percent. Abdon Calderon Munoz of the Alfarist Radical Front obtained, with his colorful [words indistinct] (?130,000 votes), or 9 percent, leaving him in fifth place. The Leftwing Broad Front obtained with its candidate, Rene Mauge, 75,000 votes, or 5 percent.

In analyzing preliminary returns, it can be noted that there are at least three big losers, but the main loser is Raul Clemente Huerta. The old street fighter, as he calls himself, [words indistinct] his third consecutive defeat in national elections. The two previous elections were the 1956 popular elections and the 1966 elections for a constituent assembly.

The last word has not been said. It is up to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, in session until the end of this month, to carefully examine the partial returns from the different provinces and verify or rectify the unofficial results given by the information service of the National Public Information Office of the presidency of the republic. We will then see what happens.

Roldos, Duran Assess Chances

PA182111Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1915 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Guayaquil, 18 Jul (EFE)--Jaime Roldos, winner of the first round of the presidential elections in Ecuador, affirmed here today that he will score an overwhelming final victory.

Roldos and Oswaldo Hurtado, his running mate, said that in the runoff election (to be held probably in September or October) they will be supported by the votes of the other center-leftist candidates who were left out of the final race.

"This will serve to confirm the overwhelming margin we obtained in the first round," they said.

For his part, Sixto Duran Ballen said in Quito that he expects to win the runoff election. "I think that a part of the votes which went to the eliminated candidates may tip the scale in my favor," he said.

During an interview with television Channel 8 in Quito, Duran said that he will not seek alliances but is ready to accept the support of other parties unconditionally. He noted that the number of votes he obtained, which was substantially below his sympathizers' expectations, "was due to a campaign of slander, insults and attacks which I abstained from answering," Duran said, "but later I will clarify everything that has been distorted."

Concerning his campaign for the runoff election, Duran said that he will introduce substantial changes to adapt it to the new circumstances.

Support for Roldos Growing

PA190251Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpts] Populist Jaime Roldos appears today as the possible new president of Ecuador after initial political statements apparently broaden the support he has for the second round of elections. The 37-year-old candidate was the winner by a large margin in Sunday's presidential elections. However, he must face rightist Sixto Duran--who obtained the second largest amount of votes--since he did not succeed in obtaining an absolute majority as the constitution requires.

The French-style second round will probably take place in September on a date to be established by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal after it announces Sunday's election results.

Sixto Duran surprisingly told the news media today that he will not seek agreements with other political parties for the second round of elections and noted that he has no commitments from the groups that supported his candidacy within the self-styled National Constitutionalist Front.

Oswaldo Hurtado--the 39-year-old Christian Democrat who is Roldos' running mate--has verified that they will accept the support of groups with ideologies that agree with their program and that hold popular and progressive principles.

Spokesmen for the Democratic Left, a new party that launched Rodrigo Borja as its candidate, have announced that there is the possibility that a platform [programatico] agreement will be reached with Roldos.

A similar decision is expected from the left, which was represented by Rene Mauge. Mauge obtained the least number of votes.

The position of the Alfarist Radical Front [FRA] is still undecided. FRA's presidential candidate was Abdon Calderon.

The political group that will have the greatest power to sway the balance between the presidential candidates is the Liberal Party, whose candidate, Raul Clemente Huerta, was third in the number of votes. Surprisingly, the national director of the Liberal Party, Francisco Huerta--a 38-year-old medical doctor--today denied that there is any possibility of an agreement with rightist Duran and hinted that the Liberal Party will probably move toward populist Roldos.

This additional support for Roldos, if it materializes, would give the populists an overwhelming majority that the right could not beat.

ARMED FORCES EMPHASIZE DECISION TO STEP DOWN

PA181844Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] National Defense Minister (ret) Gen Andres Arrata yesterday became the third high-ranking officer in the current administration to reiterate the armed forces' decision to return to their garrisons and turn over the reins of the country to whoever wins the election. The defense minister said this had been stated previously by President of the Supreme Council of Government Admiral Poveda Burbano and by Duran Arcentales, army commander in chief. He said that as defense minister he reiterates that the results of the popular election will be upheld by the armed forces.

Duran Arcentales also stated that the politicians should not knock on the garrison doors after power is turned over because the military will devote itself to its specific functions. The state's legal reorganization plan is coming to an end and the runoff election should be announced 3 days after the official announcement of election results. It will be held a month later to immediately begin organizing the inauguration which will put an end to the 8-year-old de facto regime.

ELECTORAL COURT PRESIDENT CONGRATULATES NATION ON ELECTION

PA181851Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] The Ecuadorean people showed signs of great civic maturity, Dr Jose Vaquero de la Calle, president of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, said as he analyzed the recent election.

[begin Vaquero de la Calle recording] I believe that Ecuador evidenced signs of civic and political maturity yesterday not only because of the enthusiasm and massive turnout by all citizens who could vote but because of the orderliness, the discipline with which the election took place, almost without any kind of incident. I think that the Ecuadorean people deserve to be congratulated for becoming a model for the peoples of America.

It was very satisfying for me to note that the efforts made by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, the provincial electoral tribunals and all the authorities who helped us, notably the contribution of the armed forces who helped with the transportation and supply of all materials to the various parishes and voting places, yielded great results and nothing of what was feared took place, whether delay in the voting or confusion on the part of citizens who could not find out where to vote. [end recording]

STATION REPORTS ON ROLDOS' PLATFORM

PA171950Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpt] In brief statements to the press at dawn today, the Concentration of Popular Forces [CFP] candidate--whose running mate is Oswaldo Hurtado of the Popular Democratic Movement--expressed satisfaction over the results of the political campaign. He claimed victory and agreed to participate in a runoff election.

Our government will respect human dignity, freedom and peace. It will show determination in building the fatherland, he said, noting that his government will be one of authentic national unity and that the country must not be divided into coastal and highland groups.

Summing up his platform during his political campaign, Roldos stressed: We seek a takeoff in production activities, agriculture, commerce and industry, but a takeoff meaning that wealth will provide to the underprivileged sectors the means they need for their well-being. These were the statements made by the presidential candidate for the CFP and popular democracy, Dr Jaime Roldos Aguilera, when he outlined his platform during a series of speeches organized by (CICE). [expansion unknown] He then added:

[Begin Roldos recording] We emphasize that we need a society that will consider the well-being and dignity of each and every Ecuadorean an essential task. We also propose a free society that will recognize ideological pluralism, guarantee public freedoms and respect human rights.

We stress the need for a just society that will end privileges and social inequities currently prevailing in Ecuador. We propose a government in which the most scrupulous honesty in handling public funds will be the inevitable norm; as well as democratic planning, bearing in mind regional realities as an essential instrument for achieving integral national development; administrative reform and a decentralization of public administration to guarantee efficiency; harmonious development of all Ecuadorean provinces and, consequently, national integration.

We also propose adequate agrarian reform and colonization as a necessary complementary instrument for achieving rural development and to improve the lot of peasants. We will eliminate inflation, improve the economic and social conditions of the workers, extend social security and health services to all Ecuadoreans. We will provide sports, recreation and [word indistinct] fields. Natural resources must be a patrimony of the country and national interests must prevail in their exploitation. [end recording]

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED IN LAINO CASE

Laino's Physical Condition Described

PY151447Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 15 Jul 78 p 10 PY

[Text] Dr Juan S. Netto stated last night to one of our reporters: "I TOOK PART IN LAINO'S MEDICAL EXAMINATION AT THE REQUEST OF HIS WIFE AND I HONESTLY HAVE TO SAY THAT WE DID NOT FIND ANY TRACE OF PHYSICAL ABUSE ON HIM." Dr Netto has been a professor at the school of medicine for 35 years, teaching clinical surgery, topographic anatomy and operating techniques.

The famous Paraguayan surgeon, who has never been affiliated with any political party, told us that the medical examination (in which no doctor from the Paraguayan Red Cross participated) was held yesterday at noon on one of the top floors of the Rigoberto Caballero Hospital, without the presence of police officers.

"I HAD ALREADY EXAMINED LAINO IN JAIL--ALSO AT HIS WIFE'S REQUEST--SOME 6 OR 7 YEARS AGO. THAT TIME HE REALLY HAD BEEN BEATEN. BUT THIS TIME, DESPITE THE FACT THAT HE SAID HE HAD BEEN ABUSED AT INVESTIGATIONS, THE RESULT OF THE EXAMINATION WAS NEGATIVE. HE SAID HE HAD ABDOMINAL PAINS, BUT WE COULD FIND NOTHING. THE ONLY THING THAT CAN BE NOTICED ARE BRUISES ON HIS WRISTS: PROBABLY FROM HAVING HAD HIS HANDS TIED."

We asked how he found his mental state.

"HIS EMOTIONAL STATE IS DEPLORABLE. HE SAID THEY KEPT HIM STANDING 60 HOURS AND THAT DURING ALL THAT TIME HE WAS STRUGGLING AGAINST SLEEP AND THAT THE MORAL SUFFERING WAS TERRIBLE. LAINO ALSO SAID HE WAS VERY MUCH AFRAID OF RETURNING TO INVESTIGATIONS."

Laino Transferred to Prison

PY151505Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 15 Jul 78 p 10 PY

[Excerpts] Criminal judge Antonio Escobar Cantero has ordered prison for Domingo Laino and attached his assets up to the sum of 400,000 guaranies [about $3,000]. The judge has sent an official letter to police headquarters to transfer the prisoner to the national penitentiary, where he will remain at the disposal of the court and free to communicate.

It should be mentioned that Domingo Laino arrived at Tacumbu Prison at about 1300 yesterday and was lodged in one of its cells.

Judge Escobar Cantero stated in his official letter, mentioned above: "The investigations department has sent this court a dossier regarding serious activities violating Laws 209 and 294 on 13 November 1975; a group of persons, among whom Domingo Laino appears, are said to have committed the act.

"According to the additional police report, Domingo Laino's alleged criminal activities have increased and he was detained on 7 July to be questioned regarding new acts and events which will serve the court as evidence in its judgment on the violations of Laws 209 and 204 [as published] by the prisoner."

The new presumed evidence which has been sent by the police has not been published, but a lawyer who saw the dossier has stated that the police alleged that Domingo Laino has had connections lately with an international organization (WOLA) [Washington Office on Latin America], some of whose members are reportedly of a Maoist-Communist leaning.

Lawyers Consult With Laino

PY181911Y Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 18 Jul 78 p 9 PY

[Text] Lawyers Miguel Abdor Saguier and Juan Manuel Benitez Florentin, after submitting the power of attorney as Domingo Laino's lawyers, will make a detailed study of the case against their client for violating Laws Nos 209 and 294. They indicated that they will have the cooperation of other lawyers.

The lawyers reported that they talked to Laino yesterday. Saguier said that his client "is optimistic and in great spirits despite the difficult situations he has experienced."

He added: "We will go to court with the power of attorney he gave us and we will make a thorough study of the new accusations in order to prepare the case strategy."

Based on remarks made by the interior minister yesterday regarding the possibility of holding a press conference with Laino in prison, this newspaper contacted Lorenzo Cazal, director of the national penitentiary.

Cazal said: "For 15 days Laino can see only his wife and lawyers. This is a regulation of the penitentiary which we must strictly enforce. I do not think there will be any problems after that."

When Cazal learned what the interior minister said he explained that "if the interior minister or the justice minister grants a permit then reporters will be allowed inside the prison, but if I am not told otherwise I must enforce the regulations which we are used to."

PATRIA BLASTS KENNEDY'S REMARKS ON LAINO CASE

PY181625Y Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 16 Jul 78 p 5 PY

[Editorial: "Out of His Mind"]

[Text] We suppose that Senator Edward Kennedy, as an active Christian and Catholic, must by now already be examining his conscience and will take advantage of Sunday mass to make an act of contrition for his gratuitous offense against Paraguay by falling into what was eloquently condemned here by the U.S. ambassador, who said: "IN THE FUTURE, WE SHOULD NOT HASTILY PREJUDGE TRANSITORY SITUATIONS."

And let it not be said that this is aggression, but only a response to aggression provoked this time by the surviving brother of John Fitzgerald and Robert Kennedy, murdered while the former was president of the United States and the latter was candidate for the presidency.

With this background, which points out the political lineage of the U.S. senator who has repeatedly been mentioned as possible candidate for the presidency, it would have not been right to charge him with hasty remarks, which we would rather attribute to a combination of distorted or false reporting and to an excess of good faith to the point of naivete. If we did not think so we would be viewing him as a deliberate slanderer, which is completely out of line with our spirit or intention.

Regardless of what the reason may be, what is true is that Senator Kennedy has made his own remarks on the case of the "Tovarich" [Domingo Laino]. Kennedy said that "he was beaten and abducted on the streets of Asuncion," a statement which constitutes an enormous monstrousity [as published] which can hardly be explained, not even by distorted reporting, because "abduction" [rapto], according to the dictionary, means "the unlawful carrying away of a woman for dishonorable intentions," which is not applicable to "Tovarich," although he wears long hair and a languid look; and besides, the medical checkup explicity corroborates that no "abduction" had taken place.

What Senator Kennedy wanted to say must have been "kidnaping," but that did not occur either, because this word exclusively refers to criminals who seize a person to demand a ransom in exchange for his freedom, and "Tovarich" was publicly detained in broad daylight by police officers under circumstances which were explained by another person who was with him and who considered himself detained "in solidarity with him," as he told the reporters on being set free within 48 hours. In addition, this person said that there were no beatings, but that they were pushed into the automobile which headed directly for the department of investigations. Regarding the physical status of "Tovarich," this most opportune testimony against calumny and intrigue had made the following statement long before the statement made by the medical board:

"We had been separated since our detention. But I want to explain that on being set free I met with him and I could see that he had not been beaten. Everything ended with an embrace between us before our farewell."

Senator Kennedy also surprisingly maintains that "Tovarich" was detained "APPARENTLY WITHOUT CHARGES", and judging from appearances, and nothing other than appearances, he jumps on his side and moves away from any semblance of good sense and prudence. He was not informed about or he ignored the existence of file No 145-75, in which "Tovarich" is charged with violating Law No 209 and 294, and that this case, in which several persons have been found guilty and sentenced, was still pending for "Tovarich" and others because of their congressional immunity.

It is clear, then, that he was neither kidnaped nor beaten, nor detained without charges nor, much less, abducted, a humiliating statement used exclusively by the U.S. senator, because the report by the medical board, satisfactory in all details, states in this regard that "the rectal examination reveals the existence of stool specimens and that no pathological alteration was found."

But, in addition to the "abduction," where Senator Kennedy completely loses his mind and lapses into absolute senselessness, he states that "the United States must insist on his immediate release," which makes us think of brutal forms of imperialism, such as would be the case of a sovereign nation being arbitrarily forced to scrap its codes and laws, disregarding its own dignity. Completely out of his mind--which is not good for a representative of the people with presidential aspirations, because it gives a poor image of what can be expected of him--Senator Kennedy stated: "If they keep...("Tovarich") detained, or try to implicate him with false charges, then the United States should consider suspending economic aid to that country." He proposed no less than the subordination of the judicial branch of this nation and a number of retaliations if the national constitution is implemented here. We cannot find words to describe this abuse, but since we always prefer to think optimistically we feel that the senator himself, who is better informed--as a Christian and a Catholic--will do so [as published], and also because of the fact that he also has a "blue book" [reference to OAS report on rights abuses] on his life.

GOVERNMENT CLARIFIES POLITICAL AMNESTY

PA190447Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0417 GMT 19 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpts] Lima, 18 Jul (AFP)--The government has granted amnesty and a general pardon to civilians and military personnel sentenced or tried for political or social acts. A decree approved by the Cabinet Ministry described the scope of the "broad political amnesty" announced last Friday in a communique issued by the prime minister. The decree states that the Foreign and Interior Ministries will issue the necessary regulations so that those exiled for political or social reasons can return to the country.

The decree, which was broadcast tonight, includes in the amnesty four military officers who were exiled last year on charges of subversive activity. They are Vice Admirals Guillermo Faura and Jose Arce and Majors Jose Fernandez and Eloy Villacrez.

The decree also provides for the immediate release of various labor leaders arrested following the strikes held in July 1977 and May of this year and for the cessation of the legal proceedings against others.

Assembly To Pay for Return

PA181853Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1751 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 18 Jul (AFP)--Victor Raul Haya de la Torre, the veteran Aprist leader and president of the Constituent Assembly, said here today that the assembly will pay for the return trip to Peru of all leaders still in exile.

ASSEMBLY MEMBERS SWORN IN DURING STREET CLASHES

PA182208Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2000 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpts] Lima, 18 Jul (EFE)--Heavy clashes between police and demonstrators took place today outside the Peruvian Congress Building while the members of the Constituent Assembly were being sworn in inside the building. The swearing-in ceremony, which began at noon, was suspended until 1700 at which time the 38 assembly members who had not been sworn in when the ceremony was suspended will be sworn in. Although the motives behind the suspension were not mentioned, it is assumed that the street incidents were not the reason.

The street clashes were staged by supporters of the Single Union of Education Workers [SUTEP], which has been on strike for 2 months. The SUTEP supporters had started gathering outside the Congress Building at 1000, the hour for which the swearing-in ceremony had been slated. Police repressed the revolt with light armored cars, tear gas and water hoses.

CENTRAL JUNGLE REGION TO BE DEVELOPED

PY141350Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Gen German Velarde Bozano, chief of the national system for support to social mobilization and supervisor for Pasco Department, announced that Peru is about to begin a planned march toward the east in order to take advantage of the central jungle's economic potential and to open new prospects for thousands of Peruvians.

He indicated that this march has already begun with the evaluation of the resources of the country's central jungle and with the project of making 500,000 hectares of land operational.

ARMED FORCES VOW TO RESIST 'REVISIONISM'

PY182318Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1727 GMT 18 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Montevideo, 18 Jul--The Uruguayan Armed Forces stated today that terrorism cannot be fought with weak legalism and that the fundamental objective of Marxism is Latin America.

They also warned that they will not allow any kind of revisionism to be imposed on them once they relinquish power to a government elected by the people.

The armed forces statement was issued at a ceremony to celebrate the 148th anniversary of the implementation of the Uruguayan constitution, held in downtown Montevideo in the presence of President Aparicio Mendez, who was surrounded by the commanders of the three branches, government officials and the diplomatic corps.

Col Hugo Arregui stated, in the name of the armed forces, that Uruguay had had to fight and defeat the plagues of Marxist subversion and terrorism.

He added that, in addition, "it had to bear political and economic pressures by nations which are not unaware, but purport to ignore that unleashed terrorism cannot be fought with weak, misunderstood legalism." He added that these nations are not aware or purport to ignore that the subversives, the [word indistinct], try to impose fear by resorting to all kinds of violence, kidnapings and murders of defenseless persons.

Colonel Arregui stated in this regard that an attempt has been made to charge the armed forces with violating the constitution, while the measures adopted were really aimed at safeguarding the dearest principles on which it is based.

He said: Once subversion and terrorism are overcome we will be able to proudly say that we live in freedom, in a state of law which protects all its citizens.

He stated that terrorism, "supported, maintained, trained, educated and prepared by communism, continues to try to impose fear to strengthen its ideas, aiming especially at Latin America--the bulwark of democracy, freedom and independence."

He said that at the end of the current process power will be transferred to a government elected by the people, while the armed forces will keep for themselves the power needed to safeguard that new democracy.

Colonel Arregui concluded by warning: The armed forces will not allow any kind of revisionism against the armed institution in its struggle against those who have tried or may try to disturb and destroy out life style.

GENERAL ALVAREZ FORESEES NEW DEMOCRACY

PY190243Y Montevideo Radio Carve Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jul 78 PY

[Excerpts] Lt Gen Gregorio Alvarez has told Carve exclusively that a new democracy will emerge in Uruguay.

The army commander in chief granted an exclusive interview to our radio station at the military center, where he received the greetings of retired officers.

In the interview he had with one of our reporters, Alvarez stated that power will be transferred to a government elected by the people.

[Begin Alvarez recording] This is a very special day, not only for the army but, I understand, for all of the country, because it has given the army the opportunity to parade before its people, monolithically united in pursuit of the objectives which it has pursued for the benefit of this country to which we belong.

[Question] General Alvarez, the officer who spoke today in the name of the armed forces ratified in every way the armed forces' will to hand over the government, hand over power, to a strong democracy. How would you phrase this at this time?

[Answer] Exactly. We understand that, after the our bitter experiences, a new democracy will emerge in Uruguay with the support and protection of a united armed forces which will be an example for the world.

[Question] What is the chief significance of the raising of the national flag for the first time at army headquarters? It was a very emotional ceremony.

[Answer] The raising of the flag on the army's flagstaff is a symobilic ceremony which emphasizes the monolithic unity of the army under a symbol of the fatherland, which in turn is a symbol of the country's aspirations. And I repeat, the army is united when it is a question of the fatherland.

[Question] Today another anniversary of the implementation of the constitution is being celebrated. What can you tell me about the republic's constitution?

[Answer] The only thing I can tell you is to repeat what has already been said: That at the present time we are working. The time to talk about politics and the constitution will come. [end recording]

BRIEFS

BOATS FROM SOUTH AFRICA--Local fishing companies have signed three contracts with South Africa for the purchase of eight fishing boats. [Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 Jul 78 PY]

TUNA TRADE REGULATIONS--Uruguay is establishing regulations for the catching, processing and export of Tuna fish. This was stated by Vice Adm Hugo L. Marquez [navy commander in chief], who stated that the issue is being reviewed jointly by the national navy and (?NAPE) [expansion unknown--presumably National Fishing Institute]. National officials are also in touch with representatives from Korea, Japan and Taiwan, who are interested in operating in Uruguayan waters. [Text] [Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY]

TORRIJOS APPOINTS COMMISSION ON POLITICAL PARTIES

PA181518Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 18 Jul 78 p 1 PA

[Text] The chief of government yesterday appointed the high-level commission which will begin discussing the basic guidelines for the new political parties which will begin to operate after 11 October 1978, a reliable source told CRITICA.

Yesterday, Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera appointed the commission which he had announced several days ago in Colon and which will be composed of his personal adviser, Dr Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, Education Minister Dr Aristides Royo and Foreign Minister Nicolas Gonzalez-Revilla.

The newspaper CRITICA received an exclusive report on this last night. It was reported that the commission will issue an invitation to the interested political groups to appoint their representatives. These groups will also be able to communicate with the commission to appoint their spokesmen.

As our readership will remember, the chief of government announced a week ago in Colon that the government would appoint a commission to study jointly with the groups involved matters related to the regulations for the political parties which will operate in our country after 11 October 1978.

On the other hand, it was recently announced that the national government has appointed a committee which will be in charge of organizing what will be the supporting party of the revolutionary process. The chief of government, himself, said in one of his recent speeches that the party of the revolution will not be a traditional party.

The opposition groups have also begun their political activities with a series of rallies in the countryside organized by the Panamenist Party, together with what is left of the small Christian Democratic Party.

It is to be expected that this commission will meet right away and begin studying the views of all national groups so that the return of the political parties will lead the nation down the road of a genuine, new democracy in which all Panamanians will participate.

REPUBLICAN PARTY LEADER COMMENTS ON TORRIJOS' PROPOSAL

PA181544Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 17 Jul 78 PA

[Station reporter Luz Maria Noli interview with Lorenzo Romagosa, president of the Republican Party, on 17 July 1978--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Romagosa, the day after the Panamanian chief of government's political statement in Colon Province, you told Televisora Nacional that the Republican Party would not make an official statement until after a meeting of its Directorate. Has the Republican Party's Directorate held that meeting?

[Answer] Yes, Luz Maria. Just as I promised, I met with the party's Directorate and we have issued the following statement in view of the recent statements by General Torrijos in Colon:

1. We believe that General Torrijos' statements regarding the composition of a high-level commission to study the legal mechanisms to enable the political parties to operate are extremely ambiguous. We, therefore, express our doubts regarding the real objective that is sought through the establishment of that commission.

2. The Republican Party wishes to state to the republic that although the regulation and operation of political parties is an important aspect for the development of the country's political life, it is not the most essential and urgent problem. We believe that the most fundamental problem is the prompt replacement of the current political system. General Torrijos' statements have not focused on the fundamental political problem of the country.

3. We believe that if the intentions of the chief of the National Guard are to carry out, on a short-term basis, a change in the current political system with the cooperation of all parties which will lead to the Panamanian people's effective participation in structuring a genuine system of democratic government, the Republican Party is willing to give its patriotic support to such an effort, as long as prior conditions regarding subjects and deadlines are eliminated. Those conditions are unacceptable.

4. If, on the contrary, the objective is to prolong the current state of things and establish a commission that will overlook the essential cause of the country's crisis, then the Republican Party wil not be used as a pawn so that there will be a skillful delay in the solution that the country demands which is definitely the effective re-establishment of a representative, republican and democratic system of government.

[Question] Then, Mr Romagosa, the Republican Party is not willing to participate [in the commission] as proposed in Colon?

[Answer] Undoubtedly, we could not participate in the way in which it was presented in Colon. As we said in our communique, the proposal is too ambiguous.

[Question] Then what would be the alternative?

[Answer] In a communique that we will issue soon, the Republican Party will propose other solutions to the problem because undoubtedly all problems in this life have to be seen positively and not negatively.

[No11] Thank you very much for your statements for Televisora Nacional.

COMMENTATORS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR TORRIJOS GOVERNMENT

People Are With Torrijos

PA181626Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Commentary by Gustavo Adolfo Aguilera]

[Text] A few days ago, when we analyzed the meaning of the domestic patrol of our chief of government, we said that those trips to the interior represented the continuation of the process of transformation initiated in 1968 and the reaffirmation of the consultation with the masses who are the organized communities.

During every rally held to receive Commander Omar, indisputable leader of the national struggle for recovery, the people have turned out to demonstrate their support for that leader and the liberation cause. Those receptions exceeded all estimates from the viewpoint of spontaneity because they were rallies to which the people came with a sense of patriotic conscience in spite of all the campaigns of the opposition groups. This type of direct relation with the popular masses to stimulate consultation is what differentiates this political process from the oligarchic parties which for 65 years ruled the country for their own interests and whims. In order to make it clearer, let us say that this direct democracy is the one promoted by General Torrijos and not the sin attributed to him by old figures of the past, whose arguments are nothing more than attempts to regain power and rekindle old hatreds.

The old politicians, accustomed to clamoring for democracy while the banana workers died from tuberculosis and their children's bellies swelled from worms, kick themselves in anger every time youths receive Commander Torrijos and accompany him in the discussion of the problems of the communities. Many who have returned from the golden exile in Miami are surprised, without hiding their hatred, that it is no longer easy to deceive the peasants, that the bribes which they used to hand out are no longer accepted by the mass organizations and much less by the youths who constitute a solid bastion of antioligarchic struggle and spirit.

What we can admit as a rule is that the initiative to discuss problems and solutions with the communities demonstrates that consultation is one of the bases of the transformation process. Here one can find the organized people and the deep significance of the structures of the popular power stronger than ever before. General Torrijos has said that no one is indispensable in the process but the people who have seen practical accomplishments--more schools, more health centers and production centers in the countryside--cannot hide their feelings for this man they simply call Comrade Omar.

Nothing can be more important than the freedom of the people. Never have the Panamanian people been so free as now to elect their own representatives to the assembly, to choose their community and local boards. Previously, when one mentioned democratic freedom, it meant the right of the oligarchy to exploit the people. Today, that relation has been turned around, because it is the people who have the right to construct their own future. The struggles against backwardness, against official corruption and against underdevelopment are not finished. Rather, they are just beginning. The people, together with their leaders, will have turned consultation into encouragement and the present [as heard] into victory. General Torrijos has consulted the people and the people have replied: We are with you, Commander Omar.

Government Opponents Scored

PA1302147 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

["Fijando el Rumbo" commentary by Danilo Caballero: "Political Pluralism and the Revolution"]

[Text] In recent statements to the press, General Torrijos announced that he will attend the next summit meeting of the nonalined movement which will be held next year. Our position within that group of nations which represents millions of persons has been reinforced by Omar's tour of the Third World and by the victory obtained in the canal negotiations. In the last few weeks of intense negotiation, the friendly countries of the nonalined movement kept a constant watch on our struggle and publicly stated their unrestricted support for our national cause.

When Omar decided to get closer to the nonalined movement, there was always someone who criticized that step without realizing that the first diplomatic action, the first meeting with Marshal Josip Broz Tito, was in accordance with the political outline of the October revolution, which tries to find a future system that will be in reality the Panamanian aspirin for the headache of our people, a headache inherited from decades of oligarchic misgovernment based on social inequality, on the abanondment of the great majorities by a minority which was luckily swept away in 1968 and which will not rise again because, politically speaking, its destiny is to remain in the darkest corner of the history of the fatherland. That was the message that Omar took to Sri Lanka.

We are a small people who are at the threshold of their national liberation, a people who have achieved a high degree of national unity in regard to specific goals which are the incorporation of the great forgotten masses into the nation's economic, political and cultural life. Our liberation, as Omar recently stated in Penonome, does not only involve social goals, but is aimed at achieving our economic independence, that is, to rely upon our own forces to achieve full national development. For this reason we are part of the nonalined movement and for this reason Omar has announced that he will attend the next summit meeting, because by being a part of that group of nations we are defining our position regarding political pluralism, which is the most relevant sign of this revolutionary process, especially since 1972. It is a matter of adding and not subtracting, as the chief of government usually says. However, amidst this situation, groups representing the past are trying to take advantage of any opening to unleash the sorrowfully famous witchhunts which were traditional in the times of the oligarchy.

Political pluralism means precisely that, the existence of a plurality of currents of thought in the revolutionary process under the leadership of Omar. The problem does not lie in defining whether one is a Moslem, Buddhist, Catholic or Confucian but in the role that each sector or current of thought plays in the hard task of national liberation. Here we can apply the well-known phrase, with a slight variation, of tell me what you have done and I will tell you who you are. The phrase fits perfectly because those who, with messianic voices, call for witchhunts and the night of the long knives are precisely those who never joined the revolutionary current and instead were its most enraged adversaries, who manipulated the news media.

Political pluralism was shown by the revolutionary government when, during the battle prior to the plebiscite, it opened the doors of the news media to all the sectors--both supporters and opponents of the process--which wanted to express their views on the treaties. That type of pluralism is not shown by the media which is controlled by the old and new witch hunters who always lean to their side, to their pockets and their cash register, which is what guides their conscience. Pluralism, a somewhat exaggerated one, is shown by the fact that a broadcaster daily attacks the government and its institutions. Although in the morning he demands the heads of ministers and directors of autonomous entities, he worked for a long time in the public relations office of a state enterprise. They have a strange ability to be chameleons. When it suits them, they put on the hat of witch hunters in the morning and then in the afternoon they receive government wages. But we are not going to exclusively refer to the hired mourners[as heard] of the morning since to argue with those who lack political morals is to descend to levels that are not the usual ones for the state radio braodcasting system. The important thing is to point out that those broadcasters are precisely the means used by the old obsolete parties not to confront a sector of the government and the process but to attempt to destroy the process itself, because their witch hunt is directed against the educational reform, the peasant settlements, the integrated health system, the popular power or the state broadcasting system. It is not a partial or ideological questioning of the process but a completely counterrevolutionary attitude which seeks to divide the forces that support the process.

We have seen this in various statements of the spokesmen of the backward forces. It is an attempt to use the current situation of political discussion to throw overboard what has been achieved during the past 10 years in which the people have tightened their belts to carry forward the process.

In the face of the political pluralism of the process--which needs concrete actions for its development rather than with hunters and chameleons--these forces of the past are dusting off their old hired tools to begin a night of Saint Bartholomew against any progressive position. For them and their caveman minds, a communist is anyone who defends the October revolution, who does volunteer work in the fields, who supports the process without asking for anything in return, whether he be Protestant, Catholic or Buddhist. But they are mistaken because what they thought was a favorable situation is nothing but a great tactical error. They showed their faces at a time when they believed that conditions were ripe to attack all the progressive sectors, including our humble but persistent work at Radio Libertad. They are the ones who do not want national unity for development. They are the ones who are hysterically demanding the heads of the revolutionaries. But, we repeat, they are mistaken because, like Omar, we say that this process does not surrender or crack. It is not distressed or weakened because our vision is that of the future, which belongs to all Panamanians.

ARNULFO ARIAS SAYS PEOPLE WANT DEMOCRATIC REGIME

PA182340Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2033 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 18 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Former Panamanian President Arnulfo Arias Madrid has said that the Panamanian people are rebelling against a tyrannical government and are seeking a democratic regime that will respect freedom. In an interview broadcast during a Radio Monumental newscast today, the former president accused Gen Omar Torrijos' government of being dictatorial and of having been corroded by the voices of drugs, theft and prostitution.

Therefore, Arias said that he does not know why the U.S. Government is supporting Torrijos. The only reason I can find, he said, is that it did not have faith that I would agree to sign a new canal treaty sufficiently advantageous to U.S. interests.

Regarding the period of political loosening in Panama which has been described as a political opening, the three-time overthrown president said that it is a natural process in which things have their period of birth, growth, maturity and decline.

Today the Panamanian people have a rebellious attitude. They are demoralized upon seeing that in the government circles everything is reduced to money, Arias Madrid said, adding that the power of those who rule now will be crushed by a much greater power: the spiritual power of the people.

The three-time elected president of Panama compared the Torrijos regime with the tyranny headed by Federico Tinoco, which subjugated the Costa Rican people from 1917 to 1919. Arias Madrid praised the Costa Rican people's determination to confront the tyrant and reestablish democracy.

He spoke of the gradual process of growth of the National Guard's influence in Panama's political affairs, a process which began in 1941 when it overthrew him and which has distorted the original character of this police body to the extreme extent that today it is excessively militaristic and has methods to dishonestly obtain money.

In his interview, Arias Madrid said that because he had wanted to start anew and to clean things up, he had been the victim of the military coups which prevented him from completing the terms for which he was elected.

Arias Madrid expressed thanks for the support that various Latin American political leaders gave to the Panamanian cause of recovering sovereignty over the Canal Zone but he regretted that, despite their intellectual and spiritual prestige, they had participated in Torrijos' political game, an example being the ceremony held on 16 June when the instruments of ratification of the new treaties were exchanged. According to Arnulfo Arias, this can only be explained by bearing in mind that there are countries which are satellites of a great power.

The former Panamanian president said that his first government endured "tremendous pressures" from the U.S. Government so that it would authorize the establishment of approximately 100 military bases. "I felt that I could not do so; it was almost equivalent to surrendering my country," he added.

CNTP REJECTS ARIAS' CALL FOR GENERAL STRIKE

PA190225Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] The National Central of Panamanian Workers [CNTP] issued a communique today which was signed by its secretary general, Angel Gomez, and its defense secretary, Andres Martinez. In the communique, they disavow the moral authority of Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid, leader of the Panamanist Party and the opposition against the current government, to issue a call for a general strike of the country's labor sector.

The communique states that the CNTP has read with astonishment the unprecedented impudence of Dr Arnulfo Arias' call for a general strike which is aimed at overthrowing the current government headed by Gen Omar Torrijos. The CNTP describes the call as a desperate attempt to snatch from the people the political triumph of the approval of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

The CNTP document also refers to the Panamanian bishops' pastoral letter, indicating that it worries the CNTP because it comes at a time when the enemies of the country's process are on the offensive.

BRIEFS

BIRTH-DEATH STATISTICS--The Population Research Office of the Public Health Ministry has published a report on the demographic and social profile of Panama. The report shows an important decrease in the overall mortality rate, which is closely related to advances in preventive medicine. The birth rate was 40 per 1,000 people per year up to 1965, when it started to decrease. From 1970 to 1975 the mortality rate decreased 45.6 percent while the birth rate decreased 16.8 percent. [Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 17 Jul 78 PA]

CANAL BASIN REFORESTATION PROGRAM--Mass reforestation of the Panama Canal hydrographic basin began today with the participation of about 1,000 high school students. Some 3,000 to 5,000 students are scheduled to participate in the 5-day reforestation program to make them aware of the problem of the deforestation and subsequent erosion of the Panama Canal basin. [Panama City Telvisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 11 Jul 78 PA]

COSTA RICA

CARAZO WELCOMES DENIAL OF CITIZENSHIP TO VESCO

PA181321Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Letter by Costa Rican President Carazo Odio to communications media on 17 July 1978 on Civil Registry's rejection of Robert Vesco's application for Costa Rican citizenship--read by announcer]

[Text] Costa Rica has won again. The decision of the Civil Registry to reject the naturalization application made by Robert Vesco edifies the country and fills with pride all Costa Ricans who desire a clean fatherland worthy of its traditions.

Costa Rica is our home. It has once more been demonstrated that Costa Ricans can attain lofty goals in our history and that the condition of being Costa Rican constitutes a cause for deep satisfaction which is reflected in everything we do. As the title of Costa Rican is denied to whoever does not deserve it, it is our obligation to improve ourselves every day and fully enjoy the privilege of having been born in this land, to give a dignified land to our children and to all those with clean credentials who want to cooperate in the task of our development.

GUATEMALA

GUERRILLAS ATTACK ANOTHER TOWN IN INTERIOR

PA181923Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1223 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 17 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--A third town in Guatemala's interior was attacked by alleged guerrillas, who this time killed one person and kidnaped another. The incident, which was reported by the national police today, Monday, occurred early yesterday, Sunday.

The action occurred in Quezaltenango in western Guatemala. The police report indicates that the attackers, who arrived in two vehicles, forced all residents of "La Felicidad" village in Quezaltenango to abandon their homes by threatening them with their weapons. The guerrillas kidnaped peasants Felix Romero Lopez and Benito Dominguez Lopez. The latter was found dead on the outskirts of the town. His body evidenced signs of torture.

The incident took place less than 15 days after members of the Poor People's Guerrilla Army (a clandestine leftist organization) attacked the town of Palin on the southern coast and Huehuetanango on the northern border with Mexico. The attackers left a policeman dead and another wounded in Palin. There were no victims in Huehuetenango, but the third attack has left the death toll already mentioned.

The police stated today that they have sufficient clues to find those responsible.

SECURITY FORCES INVESTIGATING TERRORIST GROUP

PA182135Y Guatemala City Radio Fabulosa Network in Spanish 1720 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] It is feared that a new terrorist organization will try to kill trade union leaders in Guatemala. The existence of a possible new clandestine extreme rightwing organization which has among its goals the killing of trade union and labor leaders is being investigated by the security forces of the Guatemalan Government.

Apparently, the group is the anticommunist labor militias [milicias obreras anticommunistas], which are made up of foreign mercenaries and people who work as bodyguards for officials of previous administrations. The police are investigating all the ramifications of this alleged clandestine organization which, it is believed, was going to hire two Salvadorans trained in antiguerrilla warfare.

Many rumors are circulating in Guatemala that this organization might be a new edition of the White Hand or the an eye-for-an-eye group which previously existed in Guatemala.

PERALTA AZURDIA LEAVES FOR VOLUNTARY EXILE

PA181646Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0225 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 17 Jul (AFP)--It was reported here that a former presidential candidate in Guatemala's 5 March general elections, Col Enrique Peralta Azurdia, left the country today to begin a voluntary exile. Peralta Azurdia, who was chief of government from 1963 to 1966 after overthrowing President Miguel Ydigoras in a military coup, left for the United States, where he has decided to live.

In statements made to the local press before leaving the country, Peralta Azurdia recalled that he had come to Guatemala with the promise of free elections. Since the elections "were the most uncivilized and scandalous fraud ever known," however, he has chosen voluntary exile where he will remain "ready to answer the call of the fatherland."

Peralta Azurdia is 77 years old.

NICARAGUA

GOVERNMENT PREPARES FOR GENERAL STRIKE

PA190327Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2127 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 18 Jul (AFP)--The Nicaraguan Government today announced special measures to prevent disorders during the national 24-hour strike called for Wednesday by the Broad Front, which includes the majority of the opposition groups. The strike will be held to protest against the death of eight high school students in Carazo Department last week.

The ruling Liberal Party announced that groups of volunteer party militants will be stationed on city buses to prevent them from being burned while the buses cover their routes. The police reported they will deploy forces to protect businesses, industries and city transportation.

Meanwhile, the Chamber of Commerce canceled its 50th anniversary celebrations and appealed for calm and the reestablishment of order and peace. The army confirmed its decision to protect the country's secondary schools, which were vacated at the end of an extended student strike staged to protest against the government. For their part, the students have refused to return to school for midterm examinations unless military guards are withdrawn.

Col Alberto Luna, director of radio and television, announced that he will apply the full weight of the law against stations which transmit strike slogans or subversive propaganda during the planned strike.

The progovernment newspaper NOVEDADES said today that "it is time to go out and defend the nation against the Sandinist plot which is trying to prepare the conditions to convert Nicaragua into another Cuba."

The government's preparations to maintain order are taking place amid newspaper conjecture that Somoza may be considering the possibility of declaring a state of siege, although this could not be confirmed by official sources. Nicaragua was under a state of siege from the end of 1974 through the middle of 1977 as a result of Sandinist guerrilla activity.

Plans to stage the strike are being made under great tension while the political crisis experienced in the country for the last 7 months has caused an appreciable decrease in government revenue. A survey made among industries reveals that 67 percent of the businessmen complain about a lack of credit, decreased sales and slow collections, which seriously affect them.

T.U. Confederation To Participate

PA181745Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1222 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 17 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The Confederation for Unity of Trade Unions [Confederation de Unificacion Sindical--CUS] decided today, Monday, "to participate actively in the struggle for true democracy in Nicaragua" by joining the Broad Opposition Front (FAO) in the nationwide strike it has called for Wednesday to protest the killing of students in the last few days. Through its executive committee, CUS appealed to all members to join the 24-hour strike called by the FAO as "a civic gesture through which the workers will repudiate the living conditions of the Nicaraguan people."

Other labor centrals that have joined the strike are the Union of Nicaraguan Workers (CTN) and the Independent General Labor Confederation (CTGTI).

Teachers Urge Support

PA190333Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0018 GMT 19 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpts] Managua, 18 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Six teachers organizations at the university, high school and elementary school level issued an appeal today, Tuesday, for the teachers union to join in the nationwide strike called by the leadership of the political opposition for tomorrow, Wednesday.

The Broad Opposition Front (FAO), which seeks to attract all political groups opposed to the government--Liberals, Conservatives, Christian Socialists and Socialists--last week scheduled a 24-hour general strike for tomorrow.

The FAO leaders have said that there has been "total support" for the strike, to be held on the "day of national dignity against bloody repression" and that the movement has the solidarity of thousands of workers who are members of the three labor unions affiliated with the front. However, the chambers of commerce, industry and construction, which encompass the most important private enterprise sectors, issued communiques stating that as associated bodies they are forbidden by their bylaws to make pronouncements regarding political movements.

The Nicaraguan Development Institute (INDE), which represents private enterprise, will hold a meeting tonight "to analyze the present situation prevailing in Nicaraguan society."

Official sectors have expressed the opinion that Wednesday's strike is another attempt to promote opposition to President Somoza and to strengthen the subversive acts perpetrated by the clandestine Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) in student and political circles in Nicaragua's most important cities.

Meanwhile, in Esteli, to the north, a "symbolic wake" was held last night under military surveillance in the atrium of the Calvario church in honor of FSLN leader Jose Benito Escobar, who was allegedly killed on Saturday by military personnel in civilian clothing. Escobar, who spent the last few years in Cuba, recently entered the country clandestinely.

In response to fears that tomorrow's strike will lead to disturbances, the government has stepped up vigilance and given assurances that it will maintain peace and protect the lives and property of the citizenry.

OPPOSITION GROUPS FORM 'UNITED PEOPLE' ORGANIZATION

PA182146Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1720 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Twenty-two people's organizations have decided to set up a political opposition group called United People [Pueblo Unido]. The organizations, made up of several student and labor groups, want to join the Broad Opposition Front after they analyze the status and activities of that anti-Somoza movement.

The groups which belong to United People have usually worked for the release of political prisoners.

FORMER AGENT TAKES ASYLUM IN VENEZUELAN EMBASSY

PA181727Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1224 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 17 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--A former national security agent took asylum in the Venezuelan Embassy on 11 July, it was learned here today. Ovidio Adolfo Alvarado Ugarte, 32 years old, was for 2 1/2 years a prisoner in one of the national security jails. When he obtained his freedom, he took asylum in the Venezuelan Embassy.

Personnel of the embassy had denied it, but today, Monday, it was confirmed to reported from the newspaper LA PRENSA in this capital by Ambassador Audelino Moreno.

The reason why he was in jail and how he obtained his freedom were not disclosed. Alvarado Ugarte is now waiting for the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry to grant him safe-conduct to leave the country.

Not long ago, four Nicaraguans and one Honduran connected with the guerrilla organization Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) left for Caracas after a long stay in the Venezuelan Embassy.

HAVANA: TRIALS OF DISSIDENTS DEMONSTRATE SOVIET RESTRAINT

FL181430Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 78 FL

[Miguel Rivero commentary]

[Text] Three trials conducted in the Soviet Union in recent days have demonstrated the manner in which imperialist circles, the enemies of detente and peace, operate and the methods they use to attempt to slander socialism. Aleksandr Ginzburg, a common criminal who was previously convicted of embezzlement and other misdeeds, has been made a martyr and a great defender of human rights by the capitalist information services. In reality Ginzberg, in the service of anti-Soviet organizations that are lavishly financed by North American imperialists, had devoted his efforts to recruiting elements who had collaborated with Italian fascists during the period of occupation to conduct counterrevolutionary activities.

The other trial was that of Anatoliy Shcharanskiy, who supplied Western intelligence services with the locations of some of the country's military industries. The bourgeois media attempted to present Shcharanskiy, a Soviet citizen of Jewish origin, as an example of discriminiation and, of course, as a standard bearer of human rights. Both the parents and brother of the discriminated Shcharanskiy family were given a university education in the Soviet Union, and this traitor has held the post of first engineer in a military scientific organization. In addition, when he applied to emigrate to Israel, Shcharanskiy admitted that he had been retained in his post but that he had stopped attending his work center because it distracted him from his social activities. Shcharanskiy was preparing anti-Soviet appeals which were allegedly signed by dozens of persons, but the proof submitted by calligraphers have demonstrated that in one of those documents more than 30 signatures were written by Shcharanskiy himself.

Another accused, Anatoliy Filatov, confessed he had lent his services as a spy under the command of an embassy of a Western capitalist country. The great capitalist information agencies and radio have said very little about Filatov. This one was caught in the act with the proof of his treaon in his hands in September 1977.

Aleksandr Ginzburg was sentenced to 8 years in prison. Shcharnaskiy was sentenced to 13 years, and the court ordered the death penalty for Filatov. In reality, however, what these trials demonstrate is the shameless and cynical work of Western capitalist countries' secret services. While the imperialists talk about detente, peace and even human rights, they actively conduct subversive and espionage activities so that when their agents are subsequently caught, they try to make them look like victims.

The Soviet authorities have acted with great moderation and restraint in these cases, but at the same time, with great energy. Physically missing from the defendant's seat were the instigators, the promoters of these subversive activities, that is, the Western imperialist states which do not desist from their anti-Soviet activities.

HAVANA REPORTS ON U.S. REPORTERS CONVICTED IN MOSCOW

FL190114Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jul 78 FL

[Text] Two North American reporters who were participating in anti-Soviet activities have been fined by a Moscow tribunal which also charged them with retracting the lies published against the USSR within 5 days. The accused, Harold Piper of the Baltimore SUN and Craig Robert Whitney of the New York TIMES, were not present at the trial, which Soviet and foreign reporters and Moscow media representatives attended as guests.

The judgment against the two North American reporters was initiated by a denunciation made by the Soviet radio and television enterprise which charged Whitney and Piper with defamation, slander and denigrating the honor and dignity of the organization and its reporters.

In articles published in their papers, the two reporters altered the facts about a television report shown on the news show Vremya with the help of Zviad Gamsakhurdia, who was also charged with anti-Soviet activities.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATED SYSTEMATICALLY IN U.S.

PA181750Y Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Angel Hernandez commentary]

[Text] The reality of the exercise of civil rights and the presumed justice of the legal system in the United States, which has been in doubt for a long time, has again become the subject of heated discussions after U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Andrew Young stated that there are thousands of political prisoners in the United States. In making that comment during an interview with the Paris newspaper LE MATIN, Andrew Young became the first high-ranking official of the Washington government to make public statements of this nature.

Personalities and social organizations as well as U.S. information media and those of other countries have denounced the systematic violation of civil rights and the notorious arbitrary actions disguised by the repressive judicial system of the United States. Intimidation, harassment, telephone taps, interception of correspondence, and the penetration of informers and provocateurs are usual methods employed by U.S. authorities against labor and student organizations and those which struggle for the social equality of ethnic minorities. To this is added the harassment and mistreatment in U.S. jails, often with fatal consequences.

Civic organizations in the United States recently revealed that last year there were 37 cases of people arrested in the United States for possession of firearms being murdered. In Los Angeles alone, 15 prisoners died under circumstances which have still not been explained. Concerning political prisoners, there are well-known cases of hundreds of citizens imprisoned for years without trial, later subjected to rigged trials in which the functions of the defense have been limited.

Violations of this nature have been present in the situation of the Wilmington 10 and the Charlotte 3, John Harris, Joan Little and Agatha (Chartur). The Puerto Rican independence fighters Lolita Lebron, Rafael (Carcel), Irwing Flores and Oscar Collazos, the continent's oldest political prisoners, are also manifest examples of partiality in judicial proceedings and of violations of the existing laws with the consequent violation of human rights in the United States.

Last February, 65 U.S. congressmen sent a letter to U.S. Attorney General Bell in which they demanded justice for the Wilmington 10. In June of last year, 60 U.S. legislators signed a similar document, which was also ignored. Four months ago, John Conyers, member of the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives, asked for a congressional investigation to determine whether the federal government had participated in a conspiracy against that group of fighters for the civil rights of U.S. blacks. Thomas Pearson, a lawyer from Chicago, said that the sentence imposed on John Harris, a fighter against U.S. racial discrimination, is a farce used to eliminate the political activist.

French Jurist Jacques (Sadat) said that the sentence against Harris is in contradiction of the human rights campaign promoted by the White House. Angela Davis, a distinguished U.S. communist leader, has repeatedly denounced the arrests made for political and racial reasons in her country and stated convincingly that, if there is any country where human rights are sytematically violated, it is United States.

In this context, Andrew Young's recent statement on the existence of thousands of political prisoners in the United States has special importance because it was made precisely when bourgeoisie political and newspaper circles, principally in the United States, are fanning anti-Soviet campaigns under the guise of defending civil rights throughout the world.

The U.S. House of Representatives recently held a heated debate on Young's conduct. The debate concluded with the rejection of a motion of impeachment against Young. Thomas O'Neil, speaker of the House of Representatives, said that Andrew Young should have avoided such statements at this particular time. However, independent of the U.S. authorities' insistence on their international promotion of human rights and their baseless accusations on the subject for purely political reasons, it is impossible to hide the other facet of this deceitful campaign: a U.S. legal system which is corrupt and where violations of the Constitution and of international commitments on human rights go unpunished.

FAR COMMENTARY RAPS PRC POLICIES AGAINST VIETNAM

FL181555Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 18 Jul 78 FL

[Revolutionary Armed Forces--FAR--and Interior Ministry combatants political information program commentary]

[Text] The PRC leaders have continued to play the role of imperialist puppets, perpetrating one more act of treason against revolutionary forces. The positions of the new Mandarins opposite the international revolutionary movement, their perfidious treason against the Chilean, Angolan and Ethiopian peoples by giving support to reactionary forces, their alliance with the most reactionary regimes, their concubinage with imperialism and their warmongering and anti-Soviet history are well known. Not satisfied with the treason perpertrated to date, the Peking leaders are now launching another adventure--this time in Southeast Asia--provoking conflicts with Socialist Vietnam. The negative position adopted by the Chinese side with respect to Vietnam in the case of the Hoa emigrants and the aid given by the Maoists to the Kampuchea regime in its aggression against Vietnamese border provinces are despicable acts which reveal their intentions.

The problem of the Chinese emigrants was conceived by Maoist propaganda to attempt to discredit the Vietnamese Government, wnich follows the socialist path, and to create a tense situation between the two countries. The responses given by Peking to the Vietnamese Government during the talks, the arbitrary measures adopted by the Chinese leaders to undermine Vietnam's reconstruction, the diplomatic moves, the slander and border violations provoked by the Chinese side constitute open provocations aimed at accomplishing their hegemonic aspirations and pretensions of superpower.

The Maoists encouraged the differences between the Kampuchea leadership and Vietnam. They have given military support to the Khmer troops and encouraged the Kampuchea army to carry out criminal massacres in their aggression against Vietnamese border provinces. All these acts are the result of the scheming policy pursued by imperialism and China and of the Peking leaders' aspirations to make their hegemonic dreams a reality.

It is well-known that the Washington administration relies on the Chinese Mandarins in the struggle against socialism and sees in that confrontation an inestimable means to promote the arms race, to weaken and crush the world revolutionary movement, and to attain its objective of domination over and subjugation of the peoples. For their part, the Chinese leaders support the encouragement of warmongering policies, stepping up the arms race and the signing of imperialist military treaties aimed at promoting war. Along with the plans of the recationary forces, the Maoists help to provoke conflict with their aspirations of exercising their hegemonic policy of world domination.

In the conflict between China and Vietnam, imperialism sees a possibility which would lead to direct armed confrontation between Maoism and socialism. Vietnam has been patient, persevering and prudent in negotiations with the Chinese side to resolve existing problems and, at the same time, has defended itself with vigor and firmness from the attacks of the Kampuchea pro-Maoist regime. The entire world recognizes that Vientam practices an independent, sovereign and solidary policy, but the world also knows that its people is determined to overcome all obstacles, frustrate the imperialist and reactionary schemes, build socialism, defend the fatherland and to continue to give support to the struggles of the peoples.

The Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community and all progressive and revolutionary forces on earth have always been and are on the side of Vietnam. They condemn Peking's provocations, hegemonic aspirations and aggressive plans. The new Chinese Mandarins will have to assume the responsibility and account for their actions, including before their own people, for abandoning the revolutionary direction, for their anti-Soviet and anti-Vietnamese revisionist policy, for their despicable treason and for any military adventure they undertake.

FSLN REPRESENTATIVES DEPLORE NICARAGUAN GUERRILLA'S DEATH

PA182130Y Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Representatives of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] of Nicaragua stationed in Cuba have issued a communique in Havana on the death in action of FSLN leader Jose Benito Escobar Perez, whom they describe as one of the most outstanding figures within their ranks and a member of the working class.

After emphasizing the deplorable loss of this Nicaraguan revolutionary, the FSLN says that Jose Benito Escobar Perez represented the political, military and organizational experience of the FSLN. In concluding, the FSLN points out that the ideals of Escobar Perez will yield positive results once the Nicaraguan people have expelled the Somoza dictatorship.

Meanwhile, the foreign affairs commission of the National People's Government Assembly of Cuba has issued a declaration of solidarity with the struggle of the Nicaraguan people. The declaration was sent to the FSLN. It says that the FSLN is in the vanguard of the struggle against the Somoza dynasty. The message of Cuban popular power also points out that now, in the face of the growing and unyielding offensive of the Nicaraguan masses in the cities and countryside which has created a critical situation for the regime, the regime, in turn, is increasing the massive extermination of workers, peasants, students and even children.

RAUL CASTRO MEETS WITH FAR DELEGATES TO FESTIVAL

FL181020Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Jul 78 FL

[Text] Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR], has held a fraternal meeting with the FAR members of the Cuban delegation to the 11th festival. Soldier Lilia Barros Gonzalez, an internationalist nurse, presented to the FAR minister a gift of memento of the meeting. The gift was a glass earth globe with the yacht Granma and a Cuban flag inside.

Army Gen Raul Castro thanked the delegates for the gift and pointed out the political importance of the 11th festival for the youth of the world. On behalf of the FAR Minstry and Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, he congratulated the delegates.

BLAS ROCA HONORED BY JOURNALISTS UNION

FL181030Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Jul 78 FL

[Text] On the occasion of his 70th birthday, PCC Politburo member Blas Roca was honored in a ceremony held at the main offices of the Union of Cuban Journalists [UPEC]. During the ceremony he was presented with a diploma accrediting him as UPEC founding member. A similar diploma was given to Jose Felipe Carneado, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of its science, culture and educational centers department. Agustin Alvarez was given another diploma.

Blas Roca made a brief speech to thank the journalists organization for the honor bestowed on him. Subsequently, he and others present examined the collection of caricatures submitted by our country's best humorists.

AALAPSO ISSUES APPEAL ON BEHALF OF SOUTH AFRICAN

FL181040Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Jul 78 FL

[Text] The Afro-Asian Latin American People's Solidarity Organization [AALAPSO] has issued an appeal on the occasion of the 60th birthday of Nelson Mandela, president of the African National Council, who has spent the last 16 years in the dungeons of the Pretoria racist regime.

AALAPSO calls for making the date 18 July the beginning of a new drive of solidarity with the South African political prisoners and of denunciation of the illegal arrests, tortures, kidnapings, murders and other brutal violations of the human rights being perpetrated in that country under the protection of the economic, financial, political and military support of Western superpowers, primarily the United States.

In demanding freedom for Nelson Mandela, who is incarcerated in the terrible prison of Robbins Island, and his wife (Winnie), who is subjected to house arrest, AALAPSO stresses that they symbolize the tens of thousands of South African patriots who are daily being tortured for heading the struggle of an entire nation against imperialism and racial discrimination.

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